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Period 4-5

9 March 2015

Chapter 7 Section 3 Homework Questions

Document:

1. Why did the Harappan civilization decline?
2. How did the Aryans class system affect the lives of the people?
3. How did the geography of the land the Aryans conquered affect their lifestyle?

Diagram:

1. How did the Indus River Valley Civilization’s architecture impact how people lived?

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1. Why did the Harappan civilization decline?

The Harappan civilization slowly began to decline due to climate changes. River patterns shifted which caused widespread flooding. As the Harappan civilization deteriorated, the Aryans invaded and conquered their land.

1. How did the Aryans class system affect the lives of the people?

The Aryans separated themselves from the people they conquered. Their society was built on four classes: priests, warriors, merchants/artisans, and laborers. This system was the basis of the caste system that has been widely used in India to this day.

1. How did the geography of the land the Aryans conquered affect their lifestyle?

The plains of northern India served as excellent grazing land, so their herds of cattle and horses grew. Cattle was very valuable to the Aryans. The Aryans started as herders but they soon relied on agriculture as a way of life. Since the horse herds were so numerous, the Aryans had great military success by riding horses into battle.

Diagram:

1. How did the Indus River Valley Civilization’s architecture impact how people lived?

The Indus River Valley people lived a lavish lifestyle. The people had access to urban centers, courtyards, pools, and baths. Houses even had indoor plumbing. The buildings were structurally built and very sturdy. They used baked mud bricks to build homes and other buildings.